(b) and (c) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments/U.T. Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance for the tourism-related projects which are identified in consultation with the State concerned every year for providing financial assistance under the schemes Integrated Development of Tourist Circuits, Product/ Infrastructure and Destination Development and Assistance for Large Revenue Generating Projects.

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, has sanctioned a project for Integrated Development of Buddhist Circuit in Orissa to develop tourist facilities at Lalitgin',, Ratnagiri, Udaigiri and Langudi for an amount of Rs. 740.67 lakh during the year 2004-05 under the Integrated Development of Tourism Circuits Scheme.

Development of Yatradham Somnath

†2322. SHRI JAYANTILAL BAROT:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal for the development of Yatradham Somnath; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Development and promotion of tourist places/spots is primarily undertaken by the State Governments/UT Administrations themselves. However, Ministry of Tourism provides central financial assistance on the basis of project proposals prioritized every year in consultation with them. A project for development of area around Somnath Temple has been sanctioned for Rs. 548.81 lakhs during 2003-04.

Cultural and religious Fairs in Uttaranchal

†2323. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Uttaranchal conducts a

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

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